

Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board

§ 1655.6

§ 1655.1 Definitions.

(a) Definitions generally applicable to the Thrift Savings Plan are set forth at 5 CFR 1690.1.

(b) As used in this part:

Amortization means the reduction in a loan by periodic payments of principal and interest according to a schedule of payments.

Date of application means the day on which the TSP record keeper receives the loan application, either electronically on the TSP Web site or on Form TSP-20 or Form TSP-U-20.

General purpose loan means any TSP loan other than a loan for the purchase or construction of a primary residence.

Guaranteed funds means a cashier's check, money order, certified check (i.e., a check certified by the financial institution on which it is drawn), cashier's draft, or treasurer's check from a credit union.

Loan issue date means the date on which the TSP record keeper disburses funds from the participant's account for the loan amount.

Loan repayment period means the time over which payments that are required to repay a loan in full are scheduled.

Principal or principal amount means the amount borrowed by a participant from his or her individual account, or, after reamortization, the amount financed.

Reamortization means the recalculation of periodic payments of principal and interest.

Residential loan means a TSP loan for the purchase or construction of a primary residence.

Taxable distribution means the amount of outstanding principal and interest on a loan which must be reported to the Internal Revenue Service as taxable income as a result of the failure of a participant to repay a loan in full, according to the terms of the loan agreement.

§ 1655.2 Eligibility for loans.

A participant who is eligible to contribute to the TSP and who is in pay status is eligible to apply for a loan from his or her TSP account. Only a participant who has at least \$1,000 in employee contributions and attributable earnings in his or her account

may receive a loan (subject to the other terms and conditions set forth in this part). A participant who is separated from Government service may not receive a loan from his or her TSP account.

§ 1655.3 Information concerning the cost of a loan.

Information concerning the cost of a loan is provided in the booklet TSP Loan Program (available on the TSP Web site, from the participant's personnel office or service, or from the TSP record keeper). From this information, a participant can determine the effects of a loan on his or her final account balance and can compare the cost of a loan to that of other sources of financing.

§ 1655.4 Number of loans.

A participant may have no more than two loans outstanding from his or her TSP account at any time. Only one of the two outstanding loans may be a residential loan. A participant with both a civilian TSP account and a uniformed services TSP account may have two outstanding loans from each account.

§ 1655.5 Loan repayment period.

(a) *Minimum.* The minimum repayment period a participant may request for a loan is one year of scheduled payments.

(b) *Maximum.* The maximum repayment period a participant may request for a general purpose loan is five years of scheduled payments. The maximum repayment period a participant may request for a residential loan is 15 years of scheduled payments.

§ 1655.6 Amount of loan.

(a) *Minimum amount.* The initial principal amount of any loan may not be less than \$1,000.

(b) *Maximum amount.* The principal amount of a new loan must be less than or equal to the smallest of the following:

(1) The portion of the participant's individual account balance that is attributable to employee contributions and attributable earnings (not including any outstanding loan principal);

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(2) 50 percent of the participant's vested account balance (including any outstanding loan balance) or \$10,000, whichever is greater, minus any outstanding loan balance; or

(3) \$50,000 minus the participant's highest outstanding loan balance (if any) during the last 12 months.

(c) If a participant has both a civilian TSP account and a uniformed services TSP account, the maximum loan amount available will be based on a calculation that takes into consideration the account balances and outstanding loan balances for both accounts.

§ 1655.7 Interest rate.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, loans will bear interest at the monthly G Fund interest rate established by the Department of the Treasury in effect on the date the TSP record keeper processes the paper application or on the date the request is entered on the TSP Web site.

(b) The interest rate calculated under this section remains fixed until the loan is repaid, unless a civilian participant informs the TSP record keeper that he or she entered into active duty military service, and, as a result, requests that the interest rate on a loan issued before entry into active duty military service be reduced to an annual rate of 6 percent for the period of such service. The civilian participant must provide the record keeper with the beginning and ending dates of active duty military service.

§ 1655.8 Quarterly statements.

Information relating to any outstanding loan will be included on the quarterly participant statements.

§ 1655.9 Effect of loans on individual account.

(a) The amount borrowed will be removed from the participant's account when the loan is disbursed. Consequently, these funds will no longer generate earnings.

(b) The loan principal will be disbursed from that portion of the account represented by employee contributions and attributable earnings, *pro rata* from each investment fund in which the account is invested and *pro*

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rata from tax-deferred and tax-exempt balances.

(c) Loan payments, including both principal and interest, will be credited to the participant's individual account. Loan payments will be credited to the appropriate investment fund in accordance with the participant's most recent contribution allocation.

§ 1655.10 Loan application process.

(a) Any participant may apply for a loan by submitting a completed loan application (Form TSP-20 or Form TSP-U-20) to the TSP record keeper.

(b) The following participants may also apply for and complete a loan request on the TSP Web site:

(1) FERS participants or members of the uniformed services requesting a general purpose loan if they are:

(i) Unmarried; or

(ii) Married and have been granted an exception to the spousal requirements described in § 1655.18.

(2) CSRS participants requesting a general purpose loan if they are:

(i) Unmarried;

(ii) Married and provide a current address for their spouse; or

(iii) Married and have been granted an exception to the spousal requirements described in § 1655.18.

(c) Persons not described in paragraph (b) of this section may use the TSP Web site to submit a loan application and obtain a loan agreement, but must complete the process by submitting the resulting loan agreement and any related documentation on paper.

§ 1655.11 Loan acceptance.

The TSP record keeper will reject a loan application if:

(a) The participant is not qualified to apply for a loan under § 1655.2 or has failed to provide all required information on the loan application;

(b) The participant has the maximum number of loans outstanding or, if the application is for a residential loan, the participant has a residential loan outstanding from the same account;

(c) The participant has a pending loan agreement or in-service withdrawal request;

(d) The amount of the requested loan is less than the minimum amount set forth in § 1655.6(a);